Elgato Guide

Table of Contents

Introduction

Streaming and recording video games for YouTube, Twitch, Facebook, Etc., is more popular than ever. There are a few different options available when choosing hardware and software; this guide follows the easiest option available for anyone new to streaming and recording.

A capture card is required for game footage to be recorded or streamed. Elgato is the premier company in game capture hardware, offering various capture cards for purchase. Some are geared for higher end PC specs and hardware, while others are more suitable for lower end machines. Streaming can also burden a PC's memory.

The best option for balanced usage is the Elgato HD 60S.

The Elgato capture card paired with OBS software is the most straight-forward pairing to get to streaming, and recording, right away. This guide will teach you how to use both the device and the program, assuming you already purchased an Elgato capture card. The OBS program is free.

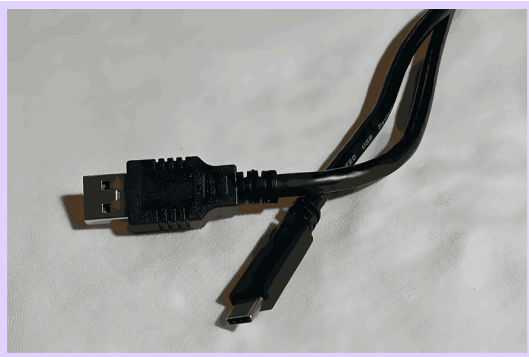Streaming the game footage from a TV to your PC requires a few, simple steps.

What You Need

Elgato HD60 S Capture Card

2x HDMI Cables

USB-C Cable

OBS Studio Program

Set Up

The Elgato comes with a USB-C cable. Two, separately sold, HDMI cables will be used to connect the Elgato to a TV and a gaming console. The Elgato has three ports: an input for USB-C, an input for HDMI, and an output for HDMI.

Elgato Setup

1. Connect the USB cable (USB-C end) to the Elgato's USB-C port.

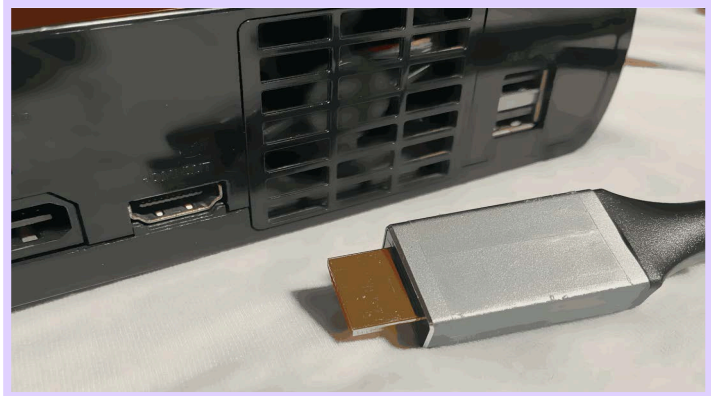2. Connect the other end (USB) to a USB port on your PC.

3. Connect an HDMI cable to the TV's HDMI input.

4. Connect the other end of the HDMI cable to the Elgato's HDMI IN port.

5. Connect a second HDMI cable to the gaming console's HDMI port.

6. Connect the other end of the second HDMI cable to the Elgato's HDMI OUT port.

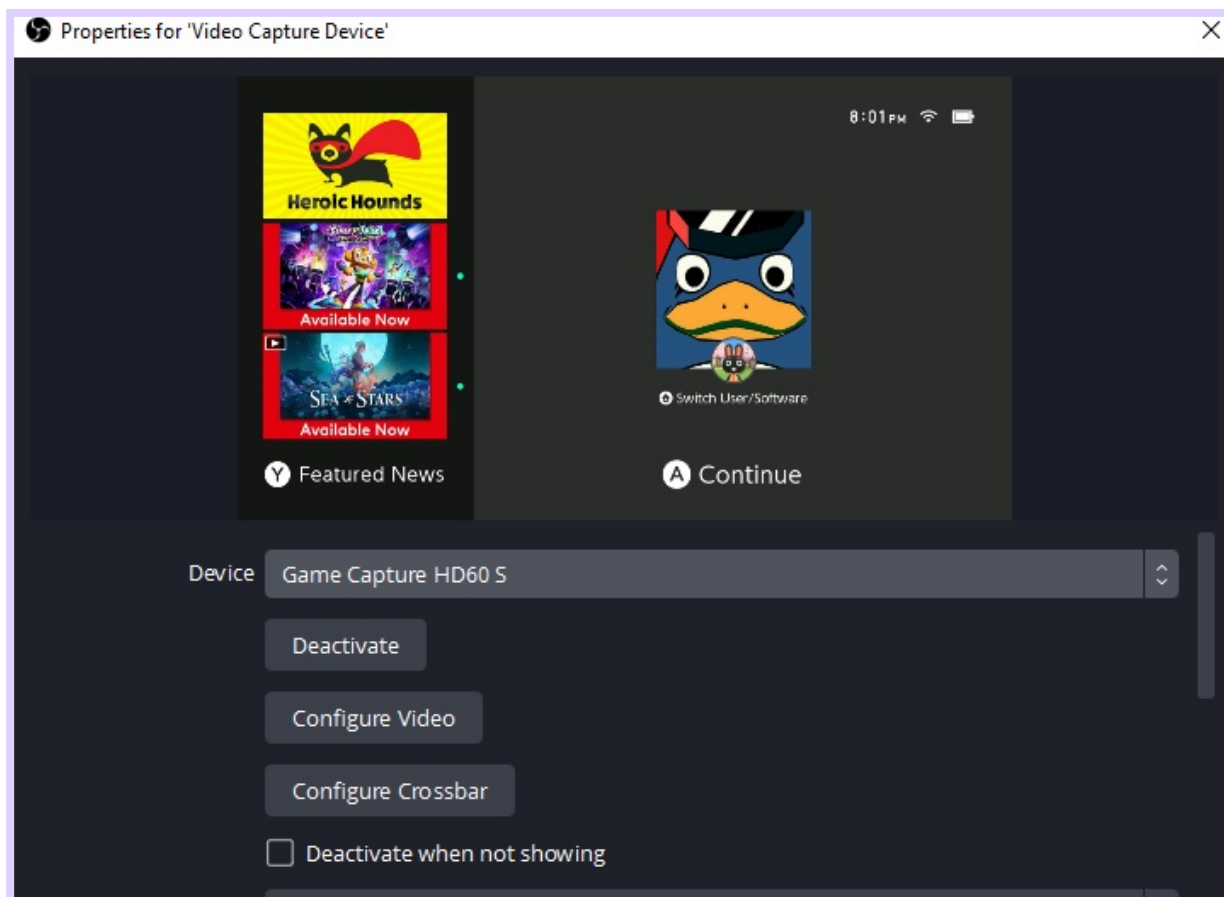7. Power on the TV and the gaming console.

OBS Set Up

The Elgato capture card will begin working on your PC once the OBS program is installed and running. The **OBS** interface consists of a large preview window with settings below it. There are a few settings that will need to be configured in **OBS** before you can properly stream or record footage including **Sources, Audio Mixer,** and **Controls**.

Sources

Sources is where to add the capture device to properly display game footage. Select the plus icon to add your Elgato. Select **Video Capture Device** from the list of options available.
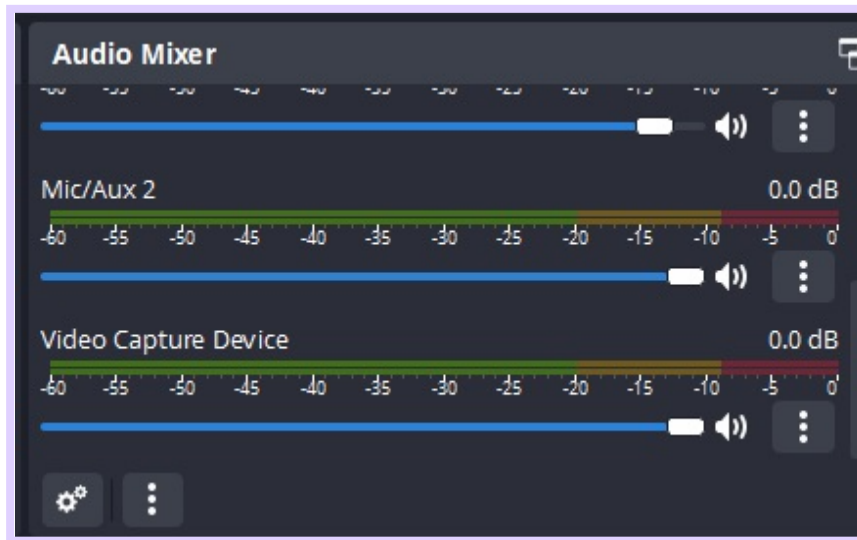
With the newly added **Capture Device** option highlighted, select the options icon to change a few settings.

Select **Game Capture HD60 S** in the drop down menu to the right of **Device**. You should see footage from your gaming console in the display window. Refer to Troubleshooting on page __ if you do not see any footage.

Keep the other options set to default, as these will match the Elgato's best settings possible. Select **OK** to save.
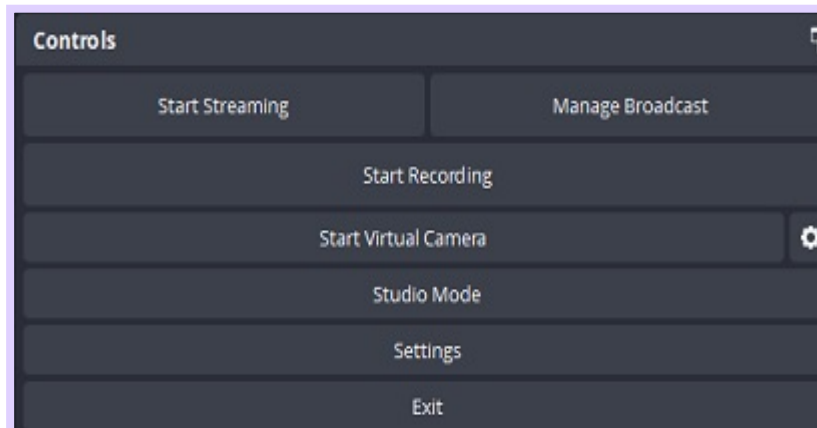
Audio Mixer

Audio Mixer is where to add various audio options: Desktop, Video Capture Device, and Mic/Aux.

Video Capture Device will capture any audio directly from your gaming console. This is the audio directly captured by the Elgato. You can mute this option by selecting the speaker icon or adjust the volume by sliding the blue bar to the left or right.

Mic/Aux will capture any audio from an inputted headset device (your voice). To select a microphone, refer to the **Controls** section in this chapter.

Controls

In **Controls**, you will be able to stream or record your footage, as well as adjust important settings.
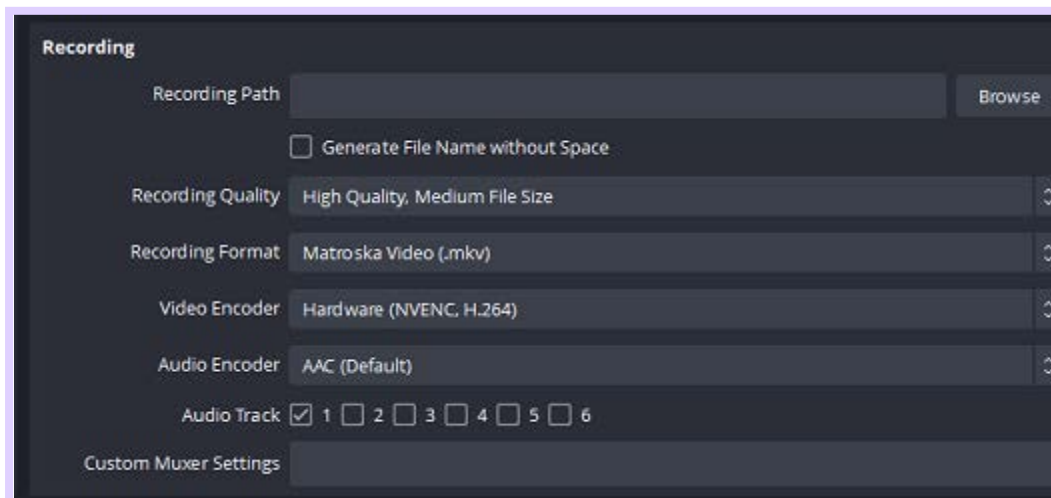
Select **Settings** to edit a few options. The **Stream** tab will be where you set up your Social Media account to stream. You can select YouTube, Twitch, Facebook, etc, in the Service drop down option. You will then need to connect the corresponding account. Log in with your information and allow **OBS** to gain access to your account or channel.

Recording

OBS offers a variety of options for all recording needs. Most may want the best recording quality possible, but depending on PC specs you may need to settle for lower settings. Generally, video stability is more important than the best graphical output - especially for capturing footage. Click on **Settings** to configure a few options for recording.

The **Output** tab has settings for both streaming and recording. For streaming options refer to page _.

In the recording section you can:

- •Choose a desired Recording Path (where the video will be saved).
- •Choose a desired Recording Quality (the higher the quality, the bigger the saved file will be).
- •Choose a Recording Format (this includes mkv, mp4, mov, and more).

The **Video** tab is where to select Resolution and FPS options for desired recorded footage. These options will also be important from streaming, but there are other options to consider when streaming (see page _). Most PC's should be able to handle any option you choose in this Video tab (strictly for recording purposes).

Recording older games

Recording older game consoles that lack HDMI input is possible- with the right tool. Most consoles have third-party HD converters available to purchase online. Search for the game console you want converted to an HD format and there will most likely be an adapter available for it.

Dreamcast, for example, has an HD converter adapter that simply plugs one end into the default VGA input, with an HDMI output on the other end.

To Record Retro Game Footage:

1. Connect the USB cable (USB-C end) to the Elgato's USB-C port. Connect the other end (USB) to a USB port on your PC.
2. Connect an HDMI cable to the TV's HDMI input. Connect the other end of the HDMI cable to the Elgato's HDMI IN port.
3. Connect a second HDMI cable to the retro game console's HD converter. Connect the other end of the second HDMI cable to the Elgato's HDMI OUT port.
4. Power on the TV and the gaming console.
5. Select the Record option in Controls (OBS).
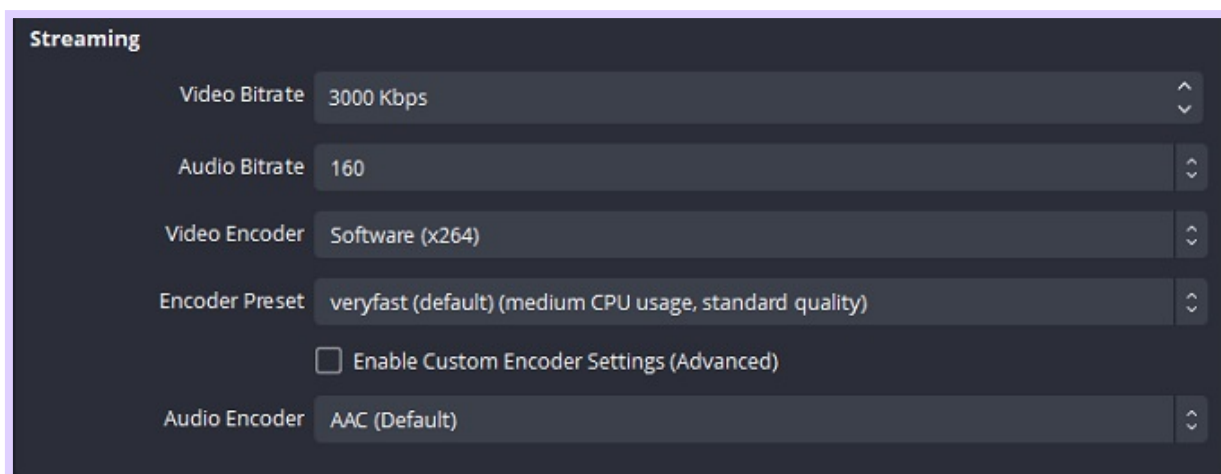6. Select Stop Recording to save the game footage.

Streaming

Streaming works just like recording in **OBS**. Game footage and selected audio settings (Desktop, Game Device, Microphone) will all be viewed and heard from viewers. However, there are essential settings that need to be adjusted to create a smooth streaming experience. Streaming will demand more from your PC's hardware than simply recording gameplay; therefore, you may need to select lower options for a better viewing experience.

Streaming Settings

Select **Output** from the Settings. The **Output Mode** has two options: **Simple** and **Advanced**. **Simple** will cover all your essential needs for streaming.

Other settings:

> •**Video Bitrate**: Choose the amount of bits displayed during a stream. For more info on Bitrate please see page ___.
> •**Audio Bitrate**: Choose between 32 and 360 audio bits. The higher the number, the better sound quality. Generally, this number won't affect the streaming process as much as the video bitrate will.
> •**Video Encoder**: Choose between encoding through software or hardware. Some may find that streaming with hardware chosen works less frequently than with software. If you find your streaming having issues with performance, try switching to Software (x264).
> •**Encoder Preset**: Choose between the options available. Ultrafast is for low cpu usage, but will also have the lowest quality when streaming. This option will depend on your PC's CPU power.
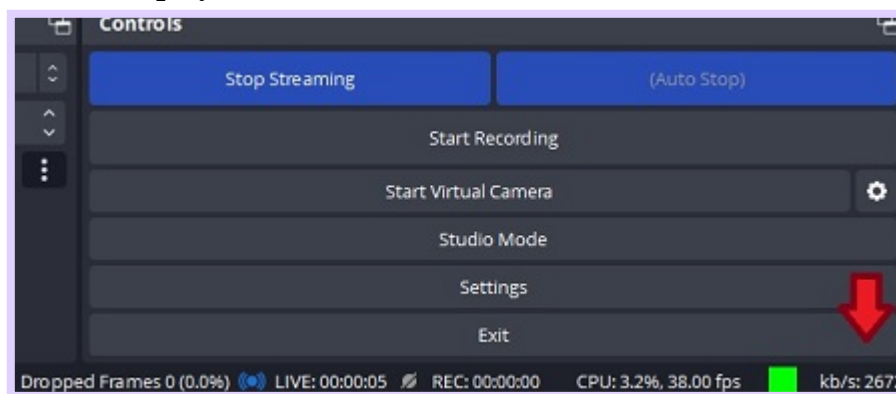
Manage Broadcast

With your streaming settings saved, you can now manage your broadcast. Select **Manage Broadcast** in the Controls section.

> •**Title**: Enter the title you want displayed on your platform of choice.
> •**Description**: Enter a description you want displayed on your platform of choice. Entering hashtags is a good idea.
> •**Category**: There are a few options to select from here, but Gaming is what you will want selected.
> •**Is this video made for kids?**: You can choose whether kid friendly accounts have access to the video or not.
> •**Thumbnail**: You can select a file to upload as your video's thumbnail. If you do not choose a thumbnail, a random still from your video will be selected.
> •**Latency**: Leave Normal selected.
> •**Schedule for later**: Select this option to set a future date and time for the video to go live.

When you are finished managing your broadcast you can then select **Create** broadcast and start streaming to go live.

Video Bitrate Information

Video bitrate usage depends on two factors: Internet speed and PC power. High speed Internet will allow you to increase the number of bits in the **Video Bitrate** option, allowing for better display.

If you aren't sure of your bitrate speed, go live with your streaming. Check the bottom right corner for the bitrate number displayed, and notice the color next to it. If the color is screen then you will have better quality when streaming. If you enter a number and the color is red then the Internet speed can not handle the bitrate. Test out this setting until you find a good number to use that remains green. Don't go too low though as the quality will drastically suffer.

Troubleshooting

Problem	Solutions
Black Image	**1. Check the USB cable** • Double check that the USB-C cable is properly inserted into your PC's USB port. Separate USB power adapters will NOT work - the device needs to be directly connected to the PC for a signal. **2. HDCP Interference** • Some newer gaming consoles, such as the PlayStation 4, have a setting that prevents capturing game footage. This setting is referred to as HDCP, and can be found in your console's game settings/options. Turn off Enable HDCP. **3. Reset** • Sometimes a simple reset of the OBS program will fix the no signal issue.
Retro Console Issues	**1. HD Converter** • Be sure to check that the HD converter for the retro console works without the capture device first. **2. Output** • Most older consoles will not properly display an image for any outputs above 480p. Be sure to use the correct settings in OBS for these consoles. • Some older consoles, such as the Sega Dreamcast, have issues with select titles displaying anything other than with an RCA cable. Unfortunately, these games will not work with any HD converter or capture device.